1996

Winter

NCNA *Journal*

N.C. N.A.

JOURNAL

WINTER 1996

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NCNA JOURNAL
Volume 21 number 1 Winter 1996

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

I want to thank the members of the NCNA Board that came out in bad weather to attend the Board Meeting in Raleigh on January 13. In general show attendance was not hurt by the foul weather.

The report on the NCNA's finances at that meeting showed that the organization is in better shape than it has been for several years. This is largely due to the many people who helped with the successful convention in Greensboro and who donated material for the auction.

Two things may stimulate the coin market in the next few months. Prices of precious metals are moving up, and that is always a plus sign. The second thing is the upcoming sale of the Eliasberg Collection. One of the most complete collections in history, its sale should stir a great deal of interest.

The North Carolina Numismatic Association is always looking for ways to help the collector, hobbyist, investor, and dealer. If you have any suggestions send them to me at Box 758, Flat Rock NC 28731-0759 or pass them on to any board member.

Will Jordan
President

The Internet, World Wide Web, and the Coin Collector

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Part 3

The first two parts of this series discussed the World Wide Web and Usenet News and whatís available for coin collectors. This final part offers an opinion about the value of these services to collectors and makes some suggestions for attaching to the Internet.

The value of services on the Internet can only be measured in relationship to the cost to the individual to obtain the services and the individualís numismatic interests. I find the Web pages and the newsgroup rec.collecting.coins interesting but only sometimes useful. Because the news group has a high volume of material more suited for beginners, and I am an advanced, specialized collector, I don't find it too useful. The Web pages also offer a broad spectrum of material, good for browsing, but not very useful for research or in-depth study. Still, the pictures of interesting numismatic material on the Web are worthwhile to me even if it is rarely pertinent to one of my specialties. As an example of a site with excellent numismatic exhibits, check out the National Numismatic Collection of the Smithsonian Institution at URL http://www.si.edu/organiza/museums /nmah/homepage/numismatics/numismatics.html. (Remember, that last period is to end the sentence--it ís not part of the address.)

Both the Web and News have various auctions and items offered for sale by companies and individuals.Some of the items are illustrated on the Web. I have notparticipated in any of these sales. I do have concern that there is no governing agency on the Internet like there is for the numismatic press. Send money to an unknown source with caution.

What does all this cost? If you already have a reasonably modern PC or Macintosh and a 14.4 kbps--preferably faster--modem the cost is mainly for the monthly access service (see below) and for your time and patience. If you are a computer novice, or have old equipment, your cost will be significant. If you don't enjoy using a computer, you probably won't tolerate the learning curve necessary to become comfortable with communications services. You will need a spirit of adventure and a certain amount of desire to extend your computer literacy--otherwise, the non-monetary costs will probably be too high for most collectors.

To get graphical access to the Internet, you need these items:

--Modern PC or Macintosh

--Fast modem (14.4Kbps, preferably faster)

--The dial-in network connection (from a commercial service provider) offering a SLIP or PPP type connection (SLIP and PPP are acronyms not usually expanded--I don't even remember what they stand for, just what they are)

--Communications software on your PC or Mac that will support making the connection, email, News, and WWW browsing. Part of this may be provided by your operating system (for instance, Windows 95 offers the basic connection software; Windows 3.1 does not)

Assuming that you have the hardware, a reasonable level of computer expertise, and some sense of adventure, you can access the Internet through major national networking vendors such as CompuServe and America On Line (AOL). These services originally did not offer Internet access. They have long offered their own email and "news" interest groups, as well as access to various databases. Most now have added Internet. These major vendors will probably offer you the easiest "package" to get started. Continued next page

You will get decent, well-integrated software and a means of getting some help by telephone. Make sure that the telephone number you dial to connect is a local

one. And be careful because these "value added" services have many information sources available only at additional costs over the basic rate charged. Itís kind of like cable television--the basic rate doesn't get you the movie channels, and your usage can lead to some high "pay-per-view" bills. Even for basic service, almost all communications services provide a fixed maximum number of hours per month before additional per-minute charges are made.

An alternative means of attaching is offered by the proliferating local commercial Internet providers. They provide the phone number to dial, with the SLIP or PPP connection, similar to the AOLs and CompuServes, but they usually only provide Internet access, not the added databases. The novice will usually be expected to choose and obtain the various software needed to use Internet services and to piece it all together. There will seldom be a well-integrated package provided for you. The Internet service provider may or (more likely) may not provide an adequate level of service for the inexperienced to get started. They will almost certainly not provide enough help for the true novice. However, the local Internet service provider will probably be less expensive than the big vendors. My connection to NandO Net in Raleigh only costs $20/month for unlimited hours.

New PCs and Macs (or often even a modem) will probably come with an AOL or CompuServe free trial disk. This may be the easiest way to try the Internet. Note: The ANA's Web site has changed its address since this series first appeared. The current WWW address is http://www.money.org/. This is one of the most valuable coin collecting sites on the WWW.

OUR COVER PHOTO

in Memorium A. Wayne Brooke

This issue's cover photo of the Long Island commemorative half-dollar is in memory of A. Wayne Brooke who died on the second of January 1996.

Wayne had served as treasurer of the Raleigh Coin Club for more than ten years when he retired and was presented with an Honorary Life Membership in the Raleigh Coin Club. Not only did he keep up with the club's books, no mean feat, but he did many other jobs. He maintained the club's stock of raffle materials, and he acted as the collective agent for the members ordering numismatic books. Wayne coordinated the Raleigh Coin Club's annual participation in the PAGE program. This program Parent Assisted Gifted Education is a Saturday school enrichment program for gifted middle school students run fall and spring at Meredith College. Wayne would arrange for six members of the club to each work with the kids for half an hour.

Wayne also oversaw the purchase and transfer of Red Books to the public school systems. This year the club had recognized that it is truly a club of the entire Research Triangle and donated books to the Durham and Chapel Hill Public Schools as well as to Wake County. Wayne was in harness to the last; he died after an auto accident in Durham, delivering Red Books.

The coin is appropriate since one of Wayne's several collecting specialties was coins and medals with sailing ships. A veteran of the United States Navy, Wayne was knowledgeable about the ships and their history and gave several talks to various groups about them. We will miss him.

The cover photo is of the obverse of the 1936 Long Island commemorative half-dollar. The coin commemorates the first permanent settlement on Long Island. The Dutch landed at Jamaica Bay in 1636 and named their settlement Breuklin, better known today as Brooklyn.

Photo is courtesy of Krause Publications. It comes from their 1987 coin calendar.

STRIKE DOUBLING *vs* DIE DOUBLING

by J. T. Stanton

Ed's note: The question of strike doubling vs die doubling came up at the talk J. T. presented at the NCNA Convention last year, and I thought that this presentation available as a handout from J. T. might help clear up the point. It is also interesting that strike doubled coins do not stir the interest that doubled die coins do. Each strike doubled coin is unique, while a doubled die likely produced numerous coins that might still be available.

Explaining and recognizing the difference between true die doubling (repunched mint marks, repunched dates, doubled dies, etc.) and strike doubling (common) is certainly one of the most difficult educational aspects of numismatics. Strike doubling (and even some other common forms of doubling) can be very confusing to understand and recognize until "the light goes on."

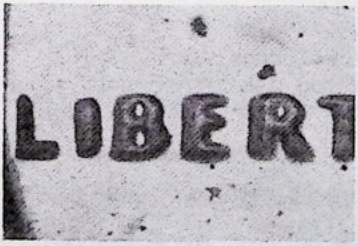
Die doubling (doubling which is actually on the die itself) encompasses doubled dies, repunched mint marks, repunched dates and repunched letters, among others. This type of doubling will almost always exhibit rounded secondary images, and/or distinctive splits in the serifs of the characters.

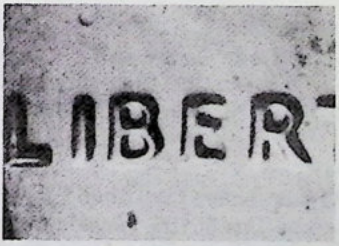
Here we see the distinctive rounded secondary image, along with the split serifs, typical of doubled dies.

Many 19th-century coins have letters and numerals which are flat on their top surface, as compared with the rounded appearance of many 20th-century letters and numerals. However, the key to identifying true die doubling will be the splits in the serifs.

Notice the splits in the serifs on the letter E in particular

Class VI doubled dies almost never exhibit any distinctive secondary images, but rather extreme extra thickness on the characters.





Compare the Class VI doubled die on the left with the normal coin on right

Continued on Page 12

COIN SHOW CALENDAR

LOCAL CHAIRMEN PLEASE NOTIFY THE EDITOR, Box 5625, Raleigh, NC 27650 of your plans as soon as possible to avoid conflicts. Information transmitted in writing is safer, but between issues inquiries and information can be recieved during evening hours at 919-832-4128. or during business hours at 919-515-2995.

FEB

3-4 Piedmont Triad Coin & Stamp Show, American Legion Hall, Creek Ridge Rd., Greensboro NC, Linda Pridgen, Box 10678, Greensboro NC 27404

10-11 Low Country Coin Club, Best Western, Charleston SC, Doc Martins, Box 71268, Charleston SC 29415

23-25 Greenville Coin Club, Holiday Inn, Roper Mtn. Rd., Greenville SC, Don McAlister, 2207 W. Parker Rd., Greenville SC 29611

16-18 Charlotte Coin Club, Merchandise Mart, Charlotte NC, Larry Sajbel, Box 33292, Charlotte NC 28233

24-25 Charlotte Stamp Expo, Days Inn Woodlawn, Charlotte NC, Richard Canupp, 5534 South Blvd., Charlotte NC 28217

MAR

9-10 Shenandoah Valley Coin Club, Expoland, Fisherville VA, James A. Ryder, 806 Mona Cir., Staunton VA 24401

16-17 Carolina Coin & Stamp Conventions, State Fairgrounds, Raleigh NC, Ted Hendrick, Box 12052, Raleigh NC 27605

21-24 Suburban Washington, Convention Center, Baltimore MD, Gorden Berg, Box 1876, Rockville MD 20850

21-24 Tennessee State Numismatic Society, Days Inn, Ext 1, I-75, Chattanooga TN, Terry Hess, Box 831, Clemmons NC 27012

29-31 Model Cities Coin Club, Civic Aud, Kingsport TN, E. S. Stanley, 3737 Hemlock Park Dr., Kingsport TN 37664

APR

12-14 Lower Cape Fear Coin Club, BPO Elks Lodage, Wilmington NC, ,

20-21 Salem Coin Club, American Legion Bldg, Salem VA, Emmett Yonce, 2040 Roanoke Rd, Daleville VA 24083

MAY

4-5 Winston-Salem Coin Club, Elk Lodge, Silas Crk. Pkwy, Winston-Salem, Dale Berube, Box 30106, Winston-Salem NC 27130

4-5 Charlotte Stamp Expo, Days Inn Woodlawn, Charlotte NC, Richard Canupp, 5534 South Blvd, Charlotte NC 27217

10-11 Rocket City Coin Club, K of C Hall, Huntsville AL, J. R. Tate, Box 750, Huntsville AL 35804

11-12 Piedmont Triad Coin & Stamp Show, American Legion Hall, Creek Ridge Rd., Greensboro NC, Linda Pridgen, Box 10678, Greensboro NC 27404

16-18 Georgia Numismatic Assn, Cobb Galleria, Atlanta GA, Carl Johnson, 706-745-5768

31- Jun 1 Parker Coin Club, Holiday Inn, Roper Mtn. Rd., Greenville SC, Don McAlister, 2207 W. Parker Rd., Greenville SC 29611

JUN

7-9 Carolina Coin & Stamp Conventions, Merchandise Mart. Charlotte NC, Ted Hendrick, Box 12052, Raleigh NC 27605

14-16 Maryland State Numismatic Assn, Convention Center, Baltimore MD, Tom Palmer, Box 6533, Baltimore MD 21219

21-23 International Paper Money Show, Cook Conv Center, Memphis TN, Mike Crabb, Box 17871, Memphis TN 38187

29-30 Raleigh Coin Club, Scott Bldg, St. Fairgrounds, Raleigh NC, Halbert Carmichael,

JUL

13-14 Piedmont Triad Coin & Stamp Show, American Legion Hall, Creek Ridge Rd., Greensboro NC, Linda Pridgen, Box 10678, Greensboro NC 27404

AUG

22-25 Blue Ridge Numismatic Assn, NW Georgia Trade Center, Dalton GA, Halbert Carmichael, Box 5625, Raleigh NC 27650

SEP

13-15 Carolina Coin & Stamp Conventions, Merchandise Mart, Charlotte NC, Ted Hendrick, Box 12052, Raleigh NC 27605

27-29 North Carolina Numismatic Assn, Village Green, W. Meadowview, Greensboro NC, Ted Hendrick, Box 12052, Raleigh NC 27605

OCT

5-6 Piedmont Triad Coin & Stamp Show, American Legion Hall, Creek Ridge Rd., Greensboro NC, Linda Pridgen, Box 10678, Greensboro NC 27404

25-27 South Carolnina Numismatic Assn, Hyatt Regency, Greenville SC, Don McAlister, 2207 W Pareker Rd., Greenville SC 29611

NOV

15-17 Suburban Washington, Baltimore Conv Center, Ed Kuzmar, Box 4049, Boca Raton FL 33429

16-17 Carolina Coin & Stamp Conventions, Holshouser Bldg, State Fairgrounds, Raleigh NC, Ted Hendrick, Box 12052, Raleigh NC 27605

23-24 Cape Fear Coin Club, Holiday Inn Bordeaux, Fayetteville NC, John Wills, Box 40632, Fayetteville NC 28309

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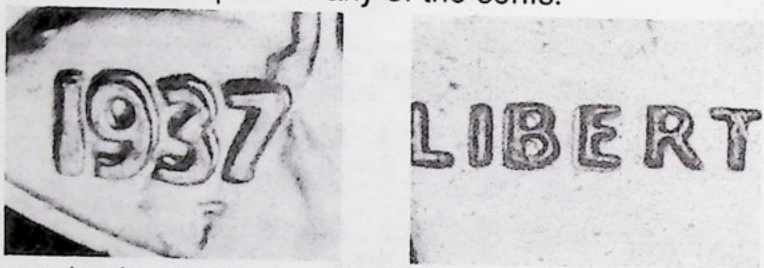
Strike doubling will generally appear as flat, shelf-like secondary images. This weaker image will always be low to the field. Bright uncirculated examples of strike doubling will give the appearance that the metal producing the secondary image has been "moved," much like that on "hobo" nickels or love tokens. These will not exhibit "splits" in any of the serifs.



A couple of examples of strike doubling. Notice the secondary images exhibit the typical flat, shelf-like character and are low to the field. There are no splits in the serifs.

Strike doubling is often referred to as "ejection" or "machine" doubling. In our opinion, ejection doubling is not a correct term, as the coin could not received this type of doubling as a result of being ejected from the coining chamber. "Machine doubling" could be used, but we prefer the term strike doubling, as we believe that this type of doubling occurs during the striking process.

The photo on the left is a doubled die, the one on the right strike doubled.

The most common cause of strike doubling is the result of a die (usually the hammer die) being loose. It twists slightly at the lowest position of the strike, creating a shearing effect on various portions of the coin. This results in the flat, shelf-like image we have been describing.

Many times, a coin is thought to have a repunched mint mark when the "doubling" is actually the result of strike doubling.

The coin on the left exhibits a true repunched mint mark: the one on the right exhibits typical strike doubling.

Strike doubling is more common on some series, and more common during some years than during other years. Franklin halves often exhibit many coins with this feature. Also, many proof coins exhibit strike doubling, probably due to the extra pressure used during the strikes. Coins from showing this phenomenon from the years from 1968 to 1972 are abundant. This could be due to a lack of quality control in the mints during this period.

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